LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A method of forming a core of a golf ball comprising the steps of:

a. providing a core material;

b. compression molding the core material in a mold cavity at a first predetermined temperature for a first predetermined time such that the core material becomes a partially-cured core; and

c. placing the partially-cured core in a medium at a second predetermined temperature for a second predetermined time to form a substantially-cured core;

wherein the medium comprises a plurality of solid particles having a particle size from 40 μm to 0.1 inches and an average specific heat value in the range from 0.010 BTU/lb-°F to 1.00 BTU/lb-°F.

2-17. (Cancelled)

18. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the first predetermined temperature is between about 250°F and about 500°F.

19. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the first predetermined time is between about 3 minutes and about 30 minutes.

20. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the first predetermined temperature is between about 300°F and about 400°F.

21. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the second predetermined temperature is substantially greater than the first predetermined temperature.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the second predetermined temperature is between about 300°F and about 500°F.

23. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the second predetermined temperature is between about 350°F and about 500°F.

24. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the second predetermined time is between about 5 minutes and about 20 minutes.

25. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the medium is a fluid.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the fluid is a non-penetrating liquid.

27. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the fluid is air.

28. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of placing the partially-cured core in a medium further includes placing the partially-cured core in a convection oven.